IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second full paragraph on p. 6 with the following amended paragraph:

--In further accordance with the invention, a method for recovering information from a composite optical signal includes the following steps. The composite optical signal, which has at least two subbands of information and at least one tone, is received. The composite optical signal is split into at least two optical signals, each including a different subband and one of the tones. For each optical signal, an optical local oscillator signal is also received. Each optical signal is detected using heterodyne detection and the optical local oscillator, resulting in an electrical signal which includes a frequency down-shifted version of the subband and the tone of the optical signal. The frequency down-shifted subband is mixed with the frequency down-shifted tone to produce a frequency component containing the information.—

Please replace the first full paragraph on p. 19 with the following amended paragraph:

--In more detail, the transmitter subsystem includes transmitters 1110A-1110N which are optically coupled to an optical combiner 1112. Transmitter 110 of FIG. 1 and its variants are suitable for use as a transmitter 1110. Each transmitter 1110 encodes information to be transmitted onto an optical signal which includes sideband(s) of information, as discussed previously in the context of FIG. 1, et seq. Each transmitter 1110 uses a different optical carrier frequency λ_1- λ_N so as to spectrally separate the relevant sidebands of the various optical signals. Combiner 1112 optically combines the optical signals to produce the composite optical signal. Examples of combiners 1112 include N:1 [[1:N]] power combiners (i.e., not wavelength selective) and WDM multiplexers. FIGS. 14A and 14B show spectra for two example composite optical signals. Referring first to FIG. 14A, transmitter 1110A produces double sideband signal 1410A. This signal includes optical carrier 1411A at wavelength λ_1 and an upper and lower sideband 1412A(U) and 1412A(L), respectively. Similarly, transmitters 1110B-1110N produce signals 1410B-1410N. For clarity, each of the sidebands 1412A-1412N

will be referred to as subbands of the composite optical signal. The composite optical signal in FIG. 14B has a similar structure to that in FIG. 14A, except that the constituent optical signals 1420 are single sideband signals.--